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CAPCOM

TIME KEEPS SLIPPING

PART 1 OF 4

MEGA MAN™

VILLAIN
VARIANT:



TIME MAN



OUT OF TIME

DIRECT EDITION



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TIME KEEPS SLIPPING

PART 1 OF 4



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CAPCOM

MEGA MAN™



A full-page comic book illustration of Mega Man slipping on a large, dark brown rock in a city canyon. Mega Man is in the foreground, wearing his signature blue helmet and armor, with a surprised expression. He is sliding down the rock, which is marked with a red arrow pointing right. In the background, a city with tall buildings and yellow energy pipes is visible under a blue sky. A speech bubble from Mega Man says "WHOA!".

WHOA!

TIME KEEPS ON SLIPPING

PART ONE: REASONABLE DOUBT

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MODDERS, and BRIAN OLIVEIRA at CAPCOM MEDIA
& CONSUMER PRODUCTS and to R.W. VANDEVENTER

POW!



BLAM!

YEAH!
THAT'S THE
WAY TO DO IT!
NICE AND
FLASHY!

WHEW!
THANKS,
BOMB
MAN!

THAT WAS NOTHING!
THAT WAS A BABY
ROBOT'S WARM-UP!



HERE'S
THE REAL
WORKOUT,
BABIES!



WHOA,
GUTS MAN,
WHOA!

GIVE
ME YOUR
HAND!



ON
THREE!
ONE!
TWO!



THREE!

KA BOOM!

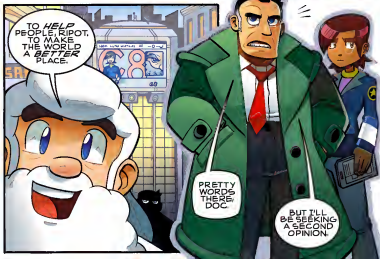
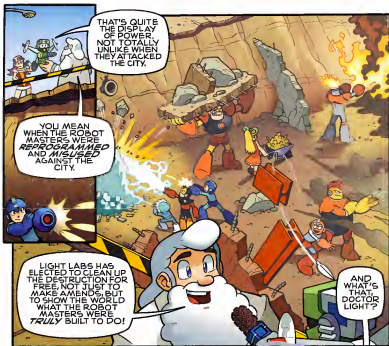




WE WERE
...MAKING THE
RUBBLE A MORE
MANAGEABLE
SIZE...?

LIH-
HUH.

*LAST
ISSUE!



CAN I HELP YOU, MISTER?

FEDERAL AGENT GILBERT D. STERN.

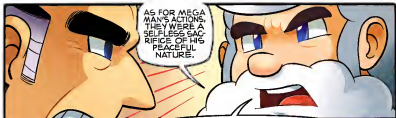
FEDERAL AGENT ROSLYN KRANTZ. WE NEED TO SPEAK WITH DR. LIGHT, PLEASE.

OF COURSE! I'VE BEEN AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE WITH ALL OF THE AUTHORITIES SINCE THE INCIDENT.

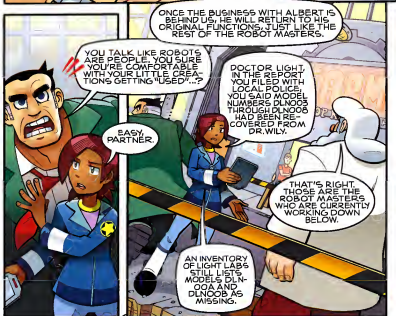
YEAH, YOU'VE BEEN REAL CUDDLY WITH THE LOCAL BRASS, ALMOST LIKE YOU GOT A GUILTY CONSCIENCE OR SOMETHIN'. I THINK IT'S KINDA *FUNNY* HOW YOUR OLD BUDDY WILY JUST *HAPPENS* TO STEAL THE ROBOT'S HE HELPED YOU BUILD *RIGHT* AFTER YOU SHOW 'EM OFF... AND YOU JUST *HAPPEN* TO HAVE THE *ONE* ROBOT THAT CAN STOP HIM.

LOTSA RAZZLE-DAZZLE AND COINCIDENCE. CARE TO SPEAK ON ALL DAT?

I BELIEVE EVERYONE DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE, EVEN ALBERT. HIS CHOICE TO SQUANDER THAT, AS UNFORTUNATE AS IT WAS, WAS HIS OWN.



AS FOR MEGA MAN'S ACTIONS, THEY WERE A SELFLESS SACRIFICE OF HIS PEACEFUL NATURE.



YOU TALK LIKE ROBOTS ARE PEOPLE. YOU SURE YOU'RE COMFORTABLE WITH YOUR LITTLE CREATIONS GETTING "USED"...?

EASY, PARTNER.

DOCTOR, LIGHT, IN THE REPORT YOU FILED WITH LOCAL POLICE, YOU SAID MODEL NUMBERS DLN003 THROUGH DLN008 HAD BEEN RECOVERED FROM DR. WILY.

THAT'S RIGHT. THOSE ARE THE ROBOT MASTERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY WORKING DOWN BELOW.

AN INVENTORY OF LIGHT LABS STILL LISTS MODELS DLN-00A AND DLN00B AS MISSING.



AH, YES!

THOSE TWO WERE STILL IN THE EXPERIMENTAL STAGES BY THE TIME OF THE UNVEILING, AND HAD BEEN LEFT IN ALBERT'S CARE. I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.

"...AND I DOUBT
ALBERT IS BEING
COOPERATIVE."

COUNTY
JAIL.

GOOD,
YOUR BEING
HERE MEANS
EVERYTHING
IS GOING
ACCORDING
TO PLAN.

TELL HIM
I'LL BE MOVED
AT 2:00PM
PRECISELY, AND
THAT I'M MAKING
ONE SMALL
ADJUSTMENT TO
THE PLAN.

"WE'LL NEED A
DIVERSION!"

I'M HOPING I CAN APPEAL
TO HIM ONE LAST TIME
WHEN MEGA MAN AND I
JOIN THE ESCORT CONVOY.
SADLY, I DOUBT HE'LL
LISTEN TO ME.

YOU'RE A BETTER
FRIEND THAN THAT
CREEP DESERVES,
DOCTOR.

YEAH, YEAH, I WEEP
FOR YA, BUT IF YOU
TWO ~~WERE~~ IN CA-
HOOTS, YOU CAN
HAVE A
PERMANENT
SLEEP-OVER
IN FEDERAL
PRISON.

I ASSURE YOU,
AGENT STERN,
I AM A MAN
OF *PEACE*
AND A CREATOR
OF TRANQUILITY.



ROCK LIGHT!
I'LL TEAR
YOU DOWN
TO YOUR
SERVOS!





SO AFTER
WE HELP MOVE
DR. WILY FROM
THIS PRISON TO
THE FEDERAL
FACILITY, I CAN
GO BACK TO BE-
ING ROCK?

THAT'S RIGHT,
YOU'VE DONE
MORE THAN
ENOUGH AS
MEGA MAN.

SO... WHY
ARE WE TAKING
DR. WILY TO THE
NEW PRISON?
WHAT'LL HAPPEN
TO HIM?

LIKE THE
PARAMETERS
OF YOUR CODING,
HUMANS HAVE
RULES TO HELP
MAKE THEIR
SOCIETY FUNCTION.
WHEN YOU BREAK
THE BIG RULES, YOU
ARE PUT IN PRISON.
IN ALBERT'S CASE,
HE'LL BE HELD
THERE FOR A
LONG TIME.

OH!
SO IT'S A
PLACE FOR
LOCALIZED
ERRORS!

WELL
...SOMETHING
LIKE THAT,
YES.

DO THE PEOPLE
IN PRISON GET
REPROGRAMMED
SO THEY'RE SAFE
AGAIN?

SOME CAN BE
REHABILITATED,
BUT YOU CAN'T
SIMPLY REPRO-
GRAM PEOPLE.

OH,
THAT'S
TOO
BAD.



QUITE THE OPPOSITE. OUR FREE WILL ALLOWS US TO DREAM, TO INNOVATE, AND TO ASPIRE TO CREATE THINGS GREATER THAN OUR INDIVIDUAL SELVES. IT'S A FREEDOM UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD.



I... AND THE ROBOT MASTERS... CAN MAKE CHOICES. DOES THAT MEAN WE HAVE FREE WILL LIKE HUMANS?



I'M AFRAID NOT, MY BOY.

OH...

YOU'RE ALL AUTONOMOUS AND CAPABLE OF A WIDE RANGE OF HUMAN-LIKE EMOTIONS AND DECISION-MAKING ABILITIES, BUT YOU'RE ALL STILL RULED BY YOUR CODING.

ONE DAY, THOUGH, I HOPE TO CAPTURE THAT **X-FACTOR** AND BUILD A ROBOT WITH A TRUE FREE WILL OF ITS OWN...



HERE WE ARE.



...WILL BE TAKING YOU INTO FEDERAL CUSTODY. YOU WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO A FEDERAL PENAL FACILITY WHERE YOU WILL AWAIT TRIAL FOR YOUR CRIMES. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

FINE. WHAT-EVER.



AH! THOMAS! AND YOUR LITTLE HELPER ROBOT. THEY'RE REALLY PUTTING ON QUITE THE SHOW TODAY!

MAKE THIS EASY ON YOURSELF ALBERT. PLEASE COOPERATE WITH THE AUTHORITIES.



THE ONLY AUTHORITY I CARE ABOUT IS MY OWN!



AND I'LL DEMONSTRATE HOW TO PUT ON A REAL SHOW...

LATER
EN ROUTE...

**POW!
POW!
POW!**

**POW!
POW!**

EEEEERRRT!

BLAM!

**BLAM!
BLAM!**

BLAM!



A SNIPER
JOE? HOW MANY
DID ALBERT
CONFISCATE?

DON'T
WORRY!
I'LL
HANDLE
IT!



HEY!
PICK ON
SOMEONE
YOUR OWN
FIRE-
POWER-
SIZE!









I'M
SORRY.



NICE WORK!
I GET WHY
THEY CALL YOU
"MEGA MAN."



HE'S
GONE!

THANK YOU,
AGENT KRANTZ.
I JUST WISH I
DIDN'T HAVE TO--





MEANWHILE, AT
LIGHT LABS...

AND THEY
CAN HAVE THEIR
STUPID, DIRTY PIT.
I'D RATHER STAY
IN THE LAB,
ANYWAY.

THAT'S
WHERE *REAL*
SCIENCE AND
ROBOTICS
GET DONE!
AND WHEN
ROCK GETS
HOME, I'LL
GIVE HIM A
PIECE OF MY--

SQUEAK

WHA...
OIL? DID
I RUPTURE
A JOINT?

SORRY
ABOUT THAT,
CUTIE. IT'S
KINDA MY
CALLING CARD.

D-DO
I KNOW
Y-YOU?



AW! BIG
DADDY LIGHT
NEVER SHOWED
YOU MY FILE? NO
MATTER, SWEET
THING.

YOU
CAN JUST
COME ALONG
QUIETLY, OR I
CAN TAKE YOU
TO DR. WILY
IN *PIECES*.

DOCTOR WILY IS ON THE LOOSE!

MEGA MAN HAS BEEN
FRAMED! TWO NEW *ROBOT*
MASTERS ARE OUT CAUSING
TROUBLE!

THE ADVENTURE GETS
MORE HEATED
NEXT TIME!

MEGA-MAIL

PRESENTS

MASTER WORKS

YOUR MEGA MAN FAN ART



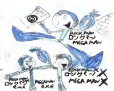
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- SHORT CIRCUITS -

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MEGA-MAIL

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P.O. BOX 6479 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0479 E-MAIL: MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Welcome, welcome, one and all, to the very first Mega Man letters page! This is where you guys and gals out there take over and tell us what YOU think about the series! So without further delay, here is the very first e-mail ever sent to MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM!

Dear Mega-Mail, Congratulations on landing perhaps the greatest possible licensing deal you can get in the world of video game comic adaptations. I have to say to you guys: well done!

Rare! I mean, thanks!

I don't think I could put all my thoughts in a letter of reasonable length, so I'm just going to say, "Great job, everyone!"

Big props to Ian, SPAZ, Gary, John and Matt for making the book look incredible month after month!

As a lifelong Mega Man fan who has grown up with the Archie team's other video game adaptation series, I have to say, the marriage between you two has produced the most beautiful baby in this comic.

One thing Capcom products are known for and one thing I am extremely glad to see brought into this comic are Easter Eggs. Boy, does this issue have a lot of great Easter Eggs; I don't know the best place to begin! I loved it all, the "Bad Box Art" Mega Man in "Short-Circuits," the Dr. Light Sprite, the Newsbots,

Mega Man Legends Police, and Neige all in the crowd! It was great.

I guess you could say that when it came to Easter Eggs, we... HOPPED...to it...thankyou

But because of these additions and what they may mean to the story of the comic, I have a few questions, or perhaps "the usual?"

Fire Away!

1) I always thought that the news robots were "Robot Masters" and that "Robot Masters" are robots which are more advanced, and more humanoid, than other robots (like Metals, for example). I suppose these "Newsbots" wouldn't be considered Robot Masters in the comic then? What exactly is the definition of "Robot Master" in the comic universe?

A Robot Master refers to a machine with the advanced artificial intelligence created by Dr. Light and Dr. Wily, that has been designed to perform a given function in society. "Robot Master" also refers to their ability to command other robots, like the "Newsbots."

2) Neige is from Mega Man Zero 4, which takes place Centuries after Mega Man. So who's this girl? Time traveling news reporter looking for a scoop? Great-Great-Grandmother who looks and dresses and has the same vocation as someone from the future? Just an easter egg that I shouldn't be worried about?

The last one!

3.) Now that you probably will be getting numbers in soon for the success of this comic, any news on adapting any other series of Mega Man? It's obvious that at least Spaz seems interested in them.

We would love to tackle some of the other series in the future! Write in and let us know what series you're dying to see adapted!

Anyway, great way to start up the series. Keep on jumpin' and slidin'!

Stephen C.
sent to megaman@archiecomics.com

Thanks for writing in, Stephen! And congrats on being the very first Mega-Mail e-mail!

Dear Mega-Mail, I have been waiting for a month for this to arrive in the mail, and it came just two days ago. I just read it now and it was just great! I love the art so much. I give my regards to all of you working on the comic, but specifically Spaz. The style is cute, but it still packs a punch. It remains similar to the Mega Man art style as well. Oh, and the short comic at the end made me laugh. I can't wait to see the later issues! Thank you for making this awesome comic, and I hope to see more soon.

Pudding
sent to megaman@archiecomics.com

Thanks for reading, "Pudding"!

See y'all next month!

NEXT ISSUE: 6



TIME KEEPS
SLIPPING - PART II

ROLL:
KIDNAPPED!

WHAT BEGAN AS A CLEAN-UP OPERATION HAS TURNED INTO A FISCAL MISSION! CAN MEGA MAN TAKE ON THE MIGHT OF TIME MAN AND DELEMAN TO SAVE ROLL?

ON SALE THE WEEK OF
10/18/11!



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